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LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

2   We claim:

3   1. (original) An apparatus comprising: a descriptor table - said apparatus for controlling flow of
4   data between first and second data processing systems via a memory, said descriptor table for
5   storing a plurality of descriptors for access by the first and second data processing systems; and
6   descriptor logic for generating the descriptors for storage in the descriptor table, the descriptors
7   including a branch descriptor comprising a link to another descriptor in the table.

8   2. (original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the descriptors generated by the
9   descriptor logic comprise a frame descriptor defining a data packet to be communicated between
10   a location in the memory and the second data processing system, and a pointer descriptor
11   identifying the location in the memory.

12   3. (original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the descriptor table is stored in the
13   memory of the first data processing system;

14   4. (original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the descriptor table is stored in a
15   memory of the second data processing system.

16   5. (original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the descriptor table comprises a
17   plurality of descriptor lists sequentially linked together via branch descriptors therein.

18   6. (original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the descriptor table comprises a cyclic
19   descriptor list.

20   7. (original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first data processing system
21   comprises a host computer system.

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1   8. (currently amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the second data processing

2   system comprises a data communications interface for communicating data between the a host

3   computer system and a data communications network.

4   9. (original) A data processing system comprising: a host processing system having a memory, a

5   data communications interface for communicating data between the host computer system and a

6   data communications network, and apparatus as claimed in claim 1, for controlling flow of data

7   between the memory of the host computer system and the data communications interface

8   10. (original) A method comprising controlling flow of data between first and second data

9   processing systems via a memory, the step of controlling comprising: storing in a descriptor table

10   a plurality of descriptors for access by the first and second data processing systems; and by

11   descriptor logic, generating the descriptors for storage in the descriptor table, the descriptors

12   including a branch descriptor comprising a link to another descriptor in the table.

13   11. (original) A method as claimed in claim 10, further comprising, by the descriptor logic,

14   generating a frame descriptor defining a data packet to be communicated between a location in

15   the memory and the second data processing system, and a pointer descriptor identifying the

16   location in the memory.

17   12. (original) A method as claimed in claim 10, comprising storing the descriptor table in the

18   memory of the first data processing system.

19   13. (original) A method as claimed in claim 10, comprising storing the descriptor table in a

20   memory of the second data processing system.

21   14. (original) A method as claimed in claim 10, comprising forming the descriptor table by

22   linking a plurality of descriptor lists in series via branch descriptors therein.

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1   15. (original) A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the first data processing system

2   comprises a host computer system.

3   16. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the second data processing

4   system comprises a data communications interface for communicating data between ~~the~~ a host

5   computer system and a data communications network.

6   17. (original) A computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having

7   computer readable program code means embodied therein for causing control of flow of data

8   between first and second data processing systems, the computer readable program code means in

9   said computer program product comprising computer readable program code means for causing a

10   computer to effect the functions of claim 1.

11   18. (original) A computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having

12   computer readable program code means embodied therein for causing data processing, the

13   computer readable program code means in said computer program product comprising computer

14   readable program code means for causing a computer to effect the functions of claim 9.

15   19. (original) An article of manufacture comprising a computer usable medium having computer

16   readable program code means embodied therein for causing control of flow of data between first

17   and second data processing systems, the computer readable program code means in said article of

18   manufacture comprising computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect

19   the steps of claim 10.

20   20. (original) A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of

21   instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for controlling flow of data

22   between first and second data processing systems, said method steps comprising the steps of

23   claim 10.

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25   **REMARKS**

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